

L I F E

O F

Nicholas Mooney,

Alias JACKSON,

Born at *Regar* near *Rathfarnham* in the County of
DUBLIN:

Wherein is contained; an Account of his Parentage and Education; his being put Apprentice to a Paper-Maker at *Glaffnevin*; his Elopement from his Master, and going to Sea; his Return to *Ireland*, and enlisting in his Majesty's Service; his Desertion, and joining the Rebel Army at *Carlisle*; his Advancement there, and the Part he acted therein, till the Defeat thereof at *Culloden-Mure*; his Escape to *France*; the Adventures he met with till he took to the Highway; the many Robberies he committed in and about *London*; with a brief Account of his vicious Life till he committed the Robbery at *Bristol*, for which he was condemned and executed there on *Friday, April 24, 1752*. Together with Religious and moral Reflections upon the most remarkable Passages of his Life, and an Account of his Conversion, the *Sunday* before his Trial: The whole delivered by him to the Sheriff at the Place of Execution, and published at his own Request.

Confucio inspicere, tanquam in speculum, in Vitas omnium, jubeo atque ex aliis sumere exemplum sibi; hoc facito, & hoc fugito; hoc laudi est, hoc vitio datur.
TER. Adelph.

And JESUS said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, This Day shalt thou be with Me in Paradise.
LUKE xxiii. 43.

D U B L I N:

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THE
L I F E
O F
Nicholas Mooney.

1. WHEN the Hand of Justice has overtaken any one, whose Crimes have made him notorious, Curiosity leads the World to enquire, What he has to say of himself; and seeing it too commonly happens that many Things are reported of such an One, that are utterly false, many matters of Fact misrepresented, and Truth so blended with Falshood, that it is almost impossible but the Publick should be in some Measure imposed upon, I thought it necessary to give a particular Account of Myself: And this I do, not only to obviate the Inconveniencies before-mentioned, nor merely to satisfy the curious Part of Mankind, who would perhaps be content with a dry Narration of bare Matters of Fact, but also to stir up all Men to repent, and believe in *Jesus Christ*, to shew that I readily own the Justice of the Sentence passed upon me, according to the Laws of my Country; and also, above all, to magnify the Wisdom, Justice, and Mercy of Almighty God, who in his own due Time has made a notorious Offender against himself, against his King and Country, a public Example to the World, and at the same time a happy Monument of his amazing Love and Free Grace to *the worst of Sinners*.

2. Heretofore I have taken a Pride in wickedly boasting of the Errors, Follies and Crimes of my past

Life, glorying in my Shame without any Remorse ; but now deeply humbled before GOD for my numberless Sins against him, I recount such of them as will give the World some little Notion of the vicious Life I have led ; (for to conceive it is impossible) and set forth the rich Grace of GOD, who hath vouchsafed to shew Mercy on so vile a Wretch, and to give me Repentance unto eternal Life. To my own Shame, and the Glory of GOD, who has accepted me in CHRIST JESUS, the Son of his Love, notwithstanding my manifold Provocations I declare, That I believe, hardly ever ~~an unhappy~~ thoughtless Man in fourscore Years has so heaped Sin upon Sin, as I have done in *thirty*. The various Scenes of Life that I have gone through ; the many signal Deliverances heretofore unnoticed that I have experienced ; the many notorious Villainies that I have committed ; and the wonderful Goodness and Mercy of GOD, to me, at the *last*, I here lay before the Reader in the following Pages.

3. Whatever other Names I have at any other Times taken upon myself, I here own, That my real Name is *Nicholas Mooney*. My Father, *John Mooney*, who kept a large Cow-Farm, and was besides a Master- Gardener, liv'd in good Credit ~~at~~ *Regar* near *Rathfarnham*, within two Miles of *Dublin*, in the Kingdom of *Ireland*, where I was born, *July 10, 1721*. My Father was of the Roman Catholic Profession ; and in the Principles of that Church I was brought up : but my Religion consisted only in *Principle* ; for as to the *Practice* of the Christian Life, it was far from me. I knew nothing of experimental Religion, nor considered, that Christianity implied something more than being born within the Pale of the Church, and embracing a crude and confused Set of Notions, and performing a few external Duties. Oh ! the Riches of the Goodness of GOD in *Christ Jesus*, who hath condescended to inform



form the Judgment and instruct the Heart of one so ignorant of his Truth, and undeserving of the least of his Favours !

4. I lived at Home with my Father, 'till I was about fifteen Years of Age : In the mean time I was put to School, and had the Benefit of a tolerable Education. About sixteen I was put Apprentice to one *Andrew Mucklerath*, a Paper-maker at *Glassnevin*, one Mile from *Dublin*. While I was here, I sometimes went to Church ; for I had taken a Dislike to the Roman Catholic Profession, and now, Glory be to God, I have utterly renounced it, and embraced the Protestant Faith, and in that Faith hope to die, thro' the Assistance of Divine Grace, a *living* Member of that Part of *Christ's* mystical Body, called, *The Church of England*. Once at Church I felt the Motions of God's Spirit upon my Soul, and began to have some little Concern for the Things of another Life ; but they soon vanish'd away, and I still continued Dead in the Midst of Life. After I had served near a Year of my Time, a Quarrel happened between me and one *William Reney*, a Journeyman that work'd for my Master, whom I almost kill'd by giving him a violent Blow on the Head with a Stone. This brought upon me the Dislike of my Master and Mistress, which I easily saw, and was impatient to bear, whereupon I pack'd up my Clothes, together with a Prayer-book that belong'd to my Master's Daughter ; *The Whole Duty of Man*, and a Pair of Stockings that were my Master's, and ran away by Night to *Drogheda*, which was about twenty Miles off ; where I was known and entertain'd by an Acquaintance of my Father's. How truly is it said, ' What is ragingly and rashly begun, challenges Shame before it is done ? ' for this rash and inconsiderate Action was the first Step to my Ruin : This pav'd the Way for all the after Extravagancies of my Life.

5. The Fear of being apprehended by my Master prevented my staying long at *Drogheda*: I therefore sold my Working clothes, and the Books I had purloin'd, and then embarked for *Liverpool* in *Lancashire*. After we were put to sea, (as if the Almighty had been displeas'd that another self-will'd *Jonah* was flying from his Presence) a violent Storm arose, which detain'd us at Sea some Days, continually toss'd up and down, expecting every Moment to be cast away. The Ship was stripp'd of her Masts and Rigging, and all were carried off. The swelling of the Sea was so great, the Sailors were obliged to tie themselves with Ropes to the Ship, to prevent their being wash'd overboard. Being driven near to the *Isle of Man*, there was the utmost Danger of being lost off *Douglas*-bay. One signal Instance of Providence, though it does not concern me, I will relate.—A Boy who came with some Liquor, to give the Sailors to refresh them, was wash'd overboard, and afterwards thrown on board again, and escap'd with Life. On the fifth Day, the Tempest abated:—We then took in a Pilot from *Douglas*, who, carried us safe in our shatter'd Vessel into that Harbour. Thus by the good Providence of God, we escap'd: But at the same time, another Ship was lost, and all the Crew, with ten or twelve Passengers, perish'd. In very deed *Those that go down to the Sea in Ships, and occupy their Business in great Waters, these Men see the Works of the LORD, and his Wonders in the Deep.* Oh! what Reason have I to bless God for my Preservation, who though preserv'd it may be for a *worse* Fate, meet it at a *better* Time: For had I then fell a Victim to the raging Sea, when the Almighty lifted up the Waves thereof, my Sins had sunk me lower than the Bottom of the great Deep, even to the nethermost Hell.

6. I not being ready to go with the Ship, it sail'd without me, and I was left in *Douglas*, where I stay'd three Weeks, and then went to *Castle-Town*, to get a Pass from the Duke of *Athol*, who is *King in Man*: No one there being suffered to leave the Island without such a Certificate, lest any one should go off without paying their Debts. Having obtain'd a Pass, I embark'd in another Ship, and had a fair Passage to *Liverpool*. From thence I proceeded to *London*, and work'd in *King-street* Road as a Gardener; (having learned something of that Business of my Father.) Being of an unsettled Disposition, I did not continue long in this Situation: And as about this Time the *Spanish* War commenc'd, I went and offered to ship myself on board a Man of War, but the Officer refused to enter me, being a Land-man: however, they impress'd me, put me on board the *Tender*, and sent me round to *Spithead*, where I was put on board the *Pearl* Man of War, of forty Guns, and entered by the Name of *Nicholas Davis*. My Reason for altering my Name now, as well as at several other Times, was to prevent a Discovery, if any Thing extraordinary should happen to me. What does the *Wisdom* of the *Serpent* avail, without the *Harmlessness* of the *Dove*. From the *Pearl* I was turn'd over to the *Burford*, a seventy Gun Ship; and from thence to the *Elizabeth* of 60 Guns; from whence I soon after got my Discharge.

7. An Advertisment was at this Time publish'd, That every Man who had been impress'd, and discharged within six Months Time, should have six Months Pay. Upon this I went to *London*; but when I came there found; that instead of six Months Pay, I could have only two, and whoever was not content with that, was to go to the *West-Indies* with *Admiral Vernon*. After some Consideration, I came to a Resolution to take my two Months Pay which amounted

amounted to thirty-five Shillings. I then determin-ed to return to *Ireland*, and accordingly set out for *Liverpool*, and from thence set sail for *Dublin*.

8. When I came to *Dublin*, I bought my self some Cloaths, and being genteelly apparelled, went home to my Parents. My Father, that I might have my Liberty and be under no Apprehensions from my Master, from whom I had absconded, bought out the Remainder of my Apprenticeship. I then went and wrought as a Journeyman Paper-maker about half a Year ; after which I removed to *Tallagh*, about four Miles from *Dublin*, where I work'd with the Archbishop of *Dublin*'s Gardener, who kept a Publick-House. After a short stay there, I returned to *Dublin*, where I was enlisted by Colonel *Brigard* into *Nevill*'s Regiment called, *The Greens*. As I belonged to Major *Portow*'s Troop, which then lay at *Maryborough* in the Queen's Coun-ty, I was obliged to go thither. There I married a Wife of the Roman Catholic Persuasion, and was discharged for so doing. I then enlisted myself a-gain into Lord *Tyrawley*'s Regiment ; but the News having reached my Officer's Ear that I had married a Roman Catholic, I was discharged from his Ma-jesty's Service a second Time. Upon this, with my Wife, I went to *Dublin*, whither my Father was then removed, and lived some time along with him. My Wife proving false to my Bed, and having contract-ed a bad Distemper, I determined to cohabit with her no longer. I then hired myself as a covenant Servant to Mr. *Simpson*, who kept a large Sugar-House in *Cole's-Lane*, *Dublin*, as his Gardener, and sometimes work'd in the Sugar-House. Here it was that I first got an Insight into the Art of Sugar-bak-ing. After a Stay of about three Quarters of a Year here, I was discharged from my Service for staying out all Night at a House of ill-fame. A gentle Stroke from the Hand of God, which might have been a sufficient

sufficient warning to me to have avoided such practices for the future ; but my ears were not then opened, to hear the voice of *the Rod and Him that appointed it*. Beware whoever thou art that readest these lines, beware of Nightly Revellings. However you may vainly think the secrecy of the season a screen for your actions, that will not bear the light, be assured, that tho' you should escape undiscovered in this world, yet *God*, whose all-piercing eye sees all things, will at the last *bring every secret thing to Judgment*.

9. Being discharg'd from Mr. *Simpson's* I work'd at another sugar-house in *Dublin* a little while, but neither here could I be content ; hurried on by the restlessness of my spirit and the precipitancy of my own will, I enlisted into Gen. *Ligonier's* regiment of horse by the name of *Nicholas Moon*. When the recruits had orders to embark for *England*, in order to proceed for *Flanders*, my father, knowing the general wicked lives of the soldiery, and solicitous for my welfare, came to me and made me many promises if I would not go. His tears and entreaties would have mov'd any heart but mine, and that was then steel'd against all he could say or do ; though within these few Days I have felt every endearing word, every kind tear, and tender parting look, as so many daggers to my soul.----However, so intent was I upon going, that I would not even stay to drink with him, but left him, my mother, acquaintance, country, all that is dear to nature, and immediately took ship, and landed safe at *Park-Gate* near *Chester*, and from thence proceeded to *Gravesend*.----*Children, obey your parents, in the LORD, for this is right.* Disobedience to their prudent and godly admonition the jealous *God* will surely visit. How exactly is that word verified in me, *The eye that mocketh his father, and despiseth to bear the counsel of his mother, the ravens*

of the valley shall pick it out, and the young eagles shall eat it.

10. At Gravesend I again took ship, and disembark'd at Ostend in Flanders and repair'd to the camp at Berlingham. From hence being order'd to Bruges, we were intercepted in our march by a party of the French who lay in ambush in a neighbouring wood, where they had planted some pieces of cannon in order to cut us off. Upon this we were obliged to retire on the other side of the river Scheld, and being escorted by a party from the camp at Berlingham, we got safe back thither. The lying in camp did not well agree with me, and I had thereby contracted a slight illness; so after I had continued here in his Majesty's service about half a year, I resolv'd upon a stratagem to get myself discharged, which was pretending *deafness*, and it succeeded according to my wish: I was discharged as unfit for the service, received the King's bounty money, which was 21 s. and a pass to return to England.—Oh! the wickedness of my heart, that I should dare even to bely my God, in order to deceive man and compass my own designs. Being thus discharg'd, I went to Holland and bought *tea*, and began to follow the unlawful practice of *smuggling*, hereby defrauding the king of his duty, and injuring the fair trader. Having made my purchase, I embark'd for England; but when I came ashore, my tea was feiz'd, tho' not by an authoriz'd officer, which however I bought again, and with it went to London, where I sold it.

11. After some time I took to work again, and wrought at Mr. Nelson's, a sugar-baker near Thames-street, London. I had been here but a short time before I was discharg'd on suspicion that I was carrying on a criminal intrigue with a servant maid in the family; but I soon after got a Place at Mr. Shoemaker's, a sugar-baker in Lemon-street, where I con-

I continued some time. From thence I went to Mr. Cooper's in Old-fish-street, where I made love to my master's sister, which coming to his ear, he discharged me from his service, before I had been there quite a year. My mind was then bent upon roving again, and I went and enlisted, into Capt. Cunningham's company, in the Train of Artillery, at Greenwich, by the name of *Nich. Moon*. From thence I went for Scotland, this being at the time the Rebellion broke out there, in order to fight for my king against his enemies ; tho' afterwards I join'd the Rebel party, which I at first went out to oppose. The occasion was this : A waggon that carried the luggage breaking down near Hexham in Northumberland, I stole from thence a little bundle of the officer's linen, which was tied up in a handkerchief. Being discover'd, I was secur'd and a guard put over me ; but finding means to make my escape, and knowing no place of safety for me, I was easily induced to join the Rebels at Carlisle, taking upon me the name of *John Jones* : for before this I (and not only I) had an inclination to go over to the *Pretender*, having heard there was preferment to be had under him. How easily does a rash head, an ambitious desire, and a corrupt conscience, spurred on by ill counsel, make a Rebel !----The Rebels having made themselves masters of Carlisle, left J. Hamilton (afterwards executed for his treason) governour there, with about 300 Rebels. I took horse, and leaving Carlisle, went with about 30 Rebels more, to Penrith, where we thought to have quarter'd ; and in order to strike a terror into the people and force them to admit us, we pretended we had 1000 more of our party at hand, and went to draw billets for them. This fetch however had no effect upon the townsmen for not believing us, they attempted to apprehend us,

whereupon we fled with a guide to Lord Lonsdale's of Lowther-hall, which was about four miles off. We had not been here much above two hours before Lord Lonsdale's servant raised the inhabitants of Penrith upon us, who came and surrounded the house. Here I was appointed commander over a guard of ten men, under Charly Boyd, so called, son to the unfortunate Earl of Kilmarnock. I turned out the guard, who were received by the Penrith men with a smart fire. Some of them were killed, and I myself was wounded in the face with small shot, the marks whereof are still visible. Oh ! the riches of the goodness of GOD, who did not suffer me to fall here in rebellion against my King, and consequently against my GOD, seeing *the powers that be are ordained of GOD.*

12. Having made my escape over a wall, I set out for Leek in Staffordshire, where the *Pretender* then was. I was taken up several times in my way by the King's men, but upon examination I always denied my being of the rebel-party, and pretended that they had wounded me, and taken my horse from me, and that I was going after it. In my way to Leek, I received a letter from J. Hamilton, for Mr. Murray the *Pretender's* secretary, which I buried under some dirt, lest the loyal party should take me, and such a letter being found about me should endanger my life, more especially if it should be known that I had deserted the King's army.

13. Ambition had bewitched me, and the expectation of great preferment under the *Pretender* made me willing to venture upon any enterprize, though ever so desperate. What certain destruction awaits that man that aims at the *gentleman* without his *fortune* ! Here was another motive that pushed me on to my ruin. Let every one be advised never to affect either dress or company above

above his station, but to be content to be thought what he really is : For *much better it is to be of an humble spirit, than to divide the spoil with the proud.* When I came to the *Pretender* at Leek, instead of being preferred, as I had no letters of recommendation, I was secured as a spy, for I was known by some of them there to have been in the English army. From Leek I was taken with the rebels to Darby, where a council of war was held, and it was resolved to retire to Lord Lonsdale's. Here we had another skirmish, and took the Duke of Cumberland's running footman prisoner. From thence we went to Carlisle, I being still a prisoner, where I was released at the instance of Hamilton, and was received into favour ; and the *Pretender* ordered me ten guineas. All this while I passed for a Yorkshire man.

14. The *Pretender* was now ready to march for Scotland ; and I being asked whether I would continue with my countrymen at Carlisle, or go with him ? I, believing the garrison not sufficient to keep the place, chose the latter ; saying, There was more likelihood of preferment in being with him, than at Carlisle. Accordingly I went to Dumfries, and, in my way, took a horse out of a field to ride on ; for nothing escaped our rapacious hands that we had a mind for. From thence we bent our course towards Hamilton. I then went in company with Capt. Maclaughlin and Mr. Saunders, and plundered a house. Among other things, we took from thence a white horse and some fire-arms, and marched on to Glasgow. Here I entered into Lord Balmerino's troop of life-guards, and bought myself a uniform. From Glasgow we marched to Aberdeen, where I went to a clergyman's house, on the other side of the water, he being deemed a disaffected person, and took a horse from him, and afterwards went to Bamff, where I hired a servant

vant to wait on me, and mounted him on the clergyman's horse, and proceeded for Inverness. When I came there, Lord *Balmerino* put me prisoner, for having staid behind my party. Being released, I went into Col. *J. Roy-Stuart*'s regiment, where I served as a *Cadet*. Preferment was the sum of all my wishes, and this I pursued by all means, right or wrong. At length I obtained what I so earnestly sought after ; for having enlisted some Men for the *Pretender*'s service, I was appointed captain over them. I might observe here, that we had no commission for our offices, but held them only by bare nomination and appointment, and that a captain's pay was no more than *2s. 6d. per day*. Poor pay for such bad work !

15. Being thus preferred, I went with Major *Glasgow* to Keith, having about a hundred men under our command, to defeat the Campbell's clan and the Duke of Kingston's light horse. The guard-house here was the church. It was about 12 o'clock at night when we arrived, the moon shining very bright. We advanced and surprized the guards, who prepared for defence, but we over-powered them after a short skirmish. One dishonourable action (but who can expect honour in a rebel !) as well as instance of cruelty in me, I will not omit : Having fired at one man and missed him, he held up his hand for quarter, but I should nevertheless have taken his head from his body, had not an officer prevented me, and interceded with me to give him quarter. Here were some killed and wounded on both sides ; all the rest we took prisoners. Then taking one of the Duke of Kingston's horses out of the stable, I rode thereon, and conducted the prisoners to our general rendezvous at Spey-side, where we had made some barracks of deal-boards.

16. Being

16. Being pursued by the English army, we were obliged to leave Spey-side, and march to Inverness, near which place, on the 16th of April, 1746. happened the decisive battle at Culloden-moor ; a battle that restored peace and tranquillity to the nation by the entire and happy defeat of the *Pretender's* Forces : I say, a *happy* defeat ; for had that *aspiring Adventurer* succeeded in his bold attempt, what must have been the consequence but gibbets, fires, racks and tortures, for every loyal subject and true protestant that would not forsake their King, their Religion and Liberty, or their Country. The favourers of the rebellion must have been rewarded ; many principal actors therein, that were wholly dependent, must have been well provided for, beside the large demands of France, which must have been answered : And with what, but the estates and fortunes of every steady adherent to their Sovereign ? And what calamities beside lay hid in the womb of such a fate, God only knows, and I pray God these nations may never experience.

17. In this battle I was a captain in the front-line of Col. John Roy-Stuart's regiment of Scots. Let me not here forget the signal hand of providence over me, when my life was in such imminent danger. In the heat of the engagement many were cut off on every side, and an officer who stood next me on my left-hand had his leg shot off : And when I was obliged to take to flight, seeing at a distance two officers, whom I imagined to be Frenchmen belonging to Fitz-James's horse, I went up to them, and found it to be an English officer, who had taken one of Fitz-James's officers prisoner. The English officer having a blunderbuss in his hand, immediately demanded my arms, which I surrendered, being a Highland broad-sword and a pistol. My fusil I had thrown away in my flight. I then took to my heels, being determined

determined to die in flight rather than be taken prisoner. He called to me to surrender, and told me he would use me like a gentleman ; but I held on my course ; whereupon he snapped his blunderbuss at me, but miss'd me, and I made my escape to Inverness. Out of the jaws of imminent death have I been thus delivered and hitherto preserved, that I might *see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living*, and experience his loving kindness *before I go hence and be no more seen*. *Oh ! who can express the noble acts of the LORD, or shew forth all his praise ?*

18. From Inverness I made on to Fort-William, and throwing off my plaid, I disguised my self in a mean habit, and proceeded towards England. In my way I met with a drover, who was driving cattle to London : I joined myself to him, and complaining that I was a poor man, he took me to help him to drive his cattle, which I did as far as Carlisle. Being recommended here by the drover to justice Gilpin, I obtained a pass, that I might travel unmolested. I then went off to York road, and about fourteen miles from York I personated a doctor, and took up my quarters at a noted inn : But, on account of my dress, I was suspected for a counterfeit, and was therefore, notwithstanding the character I had assumed, and all I could say to excuse my habit, taken prisoner, and confined in an empty house alone ; but in the night, by means of an iron pin I found in the wall, I pulled up the floor under the door, and got me out ; and with many weary steps, and thro' many difficulties, escaped safe to London.

19. As soon as I came to London I went to Newgate, to see Capt. Hamilton, who was now a prisoner there. From him I received instructions to go to the Hague, in order to get a pass to France. Leaving London, I went and took ship for Hague ; but

but when I came there, notwithstanding my instruction, and a note I had received from Capt. Hamilton, I could obtain no pass ; wherefore I set out for France without it, and got safe to Paris. Here I met with certain of the rebel officers, and one of them gave me a suit of laced cloaths, and I had between two and three hundred livres paid me out of the bank. I was then introduced to the Duke of Perth, who promised me that I should be a first lieutenant of grenadiers, and according to custom complimented me, as they term it, with a laced hat. With him I went to St. Omers, where his regiment lay. He told me there were several gentlemen expected soon from Scotland, and when they arrived we should receive our commissions all together, and till then I was to serve as a *cadet*. While I was waiting here, it happened that I was playing at billiards with Capt. Mackenzie : Both of us were drunk ; and upon my mentioning his keeping company with a married woman, a quarrel ensued between us ; whereupon he drew his Highland sword, and gave me therewith a terrible wound in my head, the mark whereof I bear to this day, and giving me a second blow, he cut off the fourth finger of my left-hand, which fell to the ground. Notwithstanding this provocation, and my own natural undaunted and furious temper, I had not power now even to draw my sword, but was just like one bereaved of thought. How soon can GOD strip a man of all his boasted courage, and make the man that would dare Goliah fall before a stripling ? A French officer interposing, prevented any further mischief. For this quarrel we were both disgraced ; and I was carried to the hospital to be cured of my wounds. In my illness here, a priest came to me to administer the sacrament, which he did. When he urged me to confession,

fession, I made so little discovery of my past life to him, that no doubt he took me for a very good Christian, (God be merciful to me) at the same time I was the chief of sinners.

20. Being recovered of my wounds, I went to Paris again, where the Pretender then was, and was ordered more money, which was paid me at three payments. I believe what I received in the whole amounted to eight or ten, or it might be twelve hundred livres. He offered me likewise a lieutenancy in Ogilvy's regiment, but I refused it, having been advised to go to Spain, where there lay open a surer way to great preferment. Accordingly I set out for Spain, with letters of recommendation in my pocket from the Pretender's brother Henry, whom they called, The Duke of York, to Col. Macdonald, with one Mr. Cronyn, a relation to Major Gen. Cronyn in Barcelona, and an old companion of mine, whom I recommended to the Pretender's court at Paris. In our way to Spain we went to Montpelier, where we called on the young Duke of Berwick and Lieut. General Wall, who gave us seven quadruples, and also further letters of recommendation to Col. Macdonald, with a request that he would prefer us both, as soon as possible. We then set out for Barcelona, where the Colonel's regiment lay. At our arrival here the Colonel received us kindly, and we served as Cadets under him, and kept, what the world calls, the best company in the place.

21. Who would trust a *wicked* companion ? He is *ever treacherous*, and for a slight offence, or when it will serve his own purpose, is ready to give up the *credit*, yea even the *life* of his friend, when it is in his power. The Spirit of God alone is the *lasting* cement of faithful hearts.— I had here the promise of the first preferment. This highly displeased my companion ; and in order to make

make his way over my head, notwithstanding I was the person who had thus far brought him in the way to advancement, he *maliciously* accused me of stealing the officer's linen at Hexham in England ; and I as *revengefully* and *falsly* accused him again of endeavouring to persuade me to *rob* on the highway : so we were both believed, and both disgraced, and left in a strange country to shift for ourselves.—Behold the fate of a Rebel ! to what shifts, to what dangers, to what extremities and distresses at best, is he exposed ! And consider deeply of it, all ye that *lift up your hands against the L ORD's Anointed*, and have holpen to bring *wasting, destruction and bloodshed* into the bowels of your country ; repent ye of your crimes speedily, lest the judgment of G OD fall upon your *rebellious* heads, as it has upon *mine*, as well as *many others*. Many have *conspired secretly*, and *acted vigorously*, but few such are there, who have not ended their lives *wretchedly*. What wonder ? He that is a *traitor* to his Prince, whom G OD has set over him, is *perjur'd* to G OD, and a *rebel* against the *Most High* ; and the *blood* of every one that falls by his hands in a *rebellious* cause, will surely be *upon his head*.—An idle opinion, or a mis-informed conscience at best, is all that can be urged to excuse Rebellion against the Prince whom G OD hath placed on the Throne (for it is *by Him Kings reign*).—But what mere grimace is it, to make it a *point of conscience* to *submit* to the *powers* that are *ordained of G OD*, and at the same time to live in open violation of all laws human and divine, which, it is too well known, was the case of the greater part of us, the disturbers of our country's peace.

22. You will easily imagine that all this while I gave myself up to all those vices, for which the soldiery in general are so notoriously infamous.

But notwithstanding the wicked and impious life I led, the Spirit of God had not quite forsaken me. Though I had grieved him times without number, he did not utterly depart from me, but oftentimes strove with me. My conscience was roused with the alarming voice of God, and I heard the accuser in my own breast. This sometimes made me think of breaking off my evil course of life, and I would set about a reformation. Divers times did I in a formal manner repent, and sin and repent, and sin again : And when I have happened in company where sober, religious people have been discoursing, I made vows and resolutions of a new life, and afterwards wrote them down in a book that I might not forget them. But, alas ! what are man's, frail man's, best resolutions, when he does not look to God for his gracious assistance to keep them ? After all this I grew worse and worse, and drank in iniquity like water, rushing headlong down the broad way to destruction, 'till I had so far grieved the Spirit of God as to cause him to depart from me, and to give me up wholly to my own heart's lust. What mercy was it that ever he vouchsafed to give me another call. Oh ! let every soul beware how they quench the convictions of God's Spirit in their own breast ! God hath said, *My Spirit shall not always strive with man.* Hear that word, and be warned.

23. Upon my disgrace I went to Sallo, and embarked in a Dutch ship bound for England, and was impress'd on board the Grand Turk, a 20 gun ship, and carried into Plimouth-found. It being understood that I had some skill in military affairs, I had the office of *Master of Arms*, which I was glad enough of, not merely for the sake of the office, but because I thought it would give me an opportunity of getting away the easier. Going ashore

ashore to Plimouth, in order to take up some men that had run away, I ran away myself, and was glad I could make my escape, without receiving any pay. I then pursued my way to Exeter, where I got acquainted with a shop-keeper's daughter, to whom I pretended love, and having ingratiated myself into her favour, I borrowed money of her, and then set out in order to go to London. But first I swore I would return and marry her. My manner of swearing here, as well as at all other times, where I never intended what I swore to, or knew it to be false, was, to swear on some trifling book, or if the Scriptures were offered me by a magistrate, to kiss my thumb only instead of the book: This was a knack the devil put into my head, and an oath taken this way I thought was not sacred. How strange was it that I should scruple to take a false oath, though at the same time I knew I was imposing a lie upon people, which would do equally as much mischief.

24. In my way to London, I met with an honest, sober, virtuous young woman, whose father was a farmer of good circumstances, in Wiltshire: I cast my vulture's eye upon her, as the destined prey to my unbounded lust and avarice. I attired myself in a very gay manner, and in the appearance of a gentleman made my addresses to her, making her believe I was a man of fortune, and by this and other devilish artifices I gained her consent to be married. We went together to London, where I took her to the Fleet and married her. I had one child by her, which dying unbaptized, though I was such an abandoned wretch, gave me no little concern. How cautious ought every young woman to be what company she goes into, especially with whom she contracts a familiarity. *Friends* should be used like gold, proved

proved to be *sterling* before they are *received*. What calamities have young people brought upon their friends, what misery and distress upon themselves, by giving too easy credit to appearances. And let the advice of a dying man prevail with all men never to attempt the chastity of any woman, and enforce St. Paul's advice, *Flee youthful lusts, which war against the soul*: For lust is a pleasure bought with pain, a delight hatch'd with disquiet, a satisfaction full of fear, and a sin finished with sorrow.

25. After I had spent what money I had with this wife, I applied myself to work at gardening again; but my income not being sufficient to support my extravagances, I took to coining of half-crowns and shillings, in moulds of my own making, and cheated the publick this way. Oh! my gracious GOD, how did *I fall from one wickedness to another, and came not into thy righteousness!* I had not followed this practice long before I was overheard by some in the house as I was at work, who suspected what I was doing, and threatened to inform against me, whereupon I threw away my moulds and left off coining. But my leaving off one vice was but to make way for another.

26. I now resolved to take to the *bighway*; accordingly I equipped myself with a brace of pistols, and set out. The first I robbed was a gentleman going to Deptford. Then I robbed a man and his wife at Hyde-park-corner: The woman's pocket I snatch'd from her side. After this I got me two accomplices, and we committed a great many robberies in and about London, which it is too tedious and indeed past my skill to enumerate. But among the many other, we set upon a gentleman belonging to the Play-house, near a Watch-house in London. One kept the watchman in the house while the other two committed the robbery.

bery. The gentleman had his sword drawn in his hand, with which he stabb'd me in the side : however, I got his sword from him and made off with it. I took upon myself during this scene of my life, the name of *The Black Knight*, because I never robb'd in the day-time ; and by this name I went among my accomplices.

27. Soon after I was taken up for this robbery at my own lodgings on the back-part of Wild-street by the watch, and carried before a magistrate, who committed me to Clerkenwell Bridewell. As soon as I was apprehended I sent word to my accomplices to make their escape ; and as soon as I found they had absconded, in order to get myself off, I sent word, that I would *impeach* my accomplices ; which I accordingly did, and moreover made information against three *innocent* men, and after *my* manner swore against them ; two of whom were thereupon apprehended and committed ; one to Newgate, and the other to Clerkenwell-Bridewell ; but afterwards, no other evidence appearing against them but *me*, they were discharg'd by Justice Fielding. At the next Sessions at the Old-Baily I was tried and condemn'd to die by my right name of *Nicolas Mooney*. But oh ! the *hardness* of my heart ! how little did I think of *Death* and a *future state* ! The name of *God* was never in my heart, but when it came out of my mouth in *blasphemy*. And so far was I from making any preparation for another life, that I kept sinning on to that degree, as if I had meant to *pull* down damnation on my own head, before the day of vengeance was come.---Oh ! let me blush for shame before *God* and all the world, and let every one that has a spark of modesty or humanity blush for me, that I had none. How shall I tell the *horrid* deed ! Be astonish'd all ye Powers of Heaven and Earth at the *unparallel'd* wickedness

ness of so *harden'd* a wretch ; who tho' under sentence of death, without any *fear*, or *remorse*, committed *whoredom* in the cell with a woman that was *respited*, and whose life was yet in *suspence*, while a poor condemn'd criminal like ourselves, lay *dead* beside us. What pity it is that persons of different sexes are suffer'd to confort together when they are under confinement, who have need of every *help* to bring them to a true sense of themselves, and to be kept from every thing that has any ways a tendency to *binder* it. And here let me warn every one to beware of the *beginnings* of *sin*, for who that once sets out on a vicious course of life, is master enough of himself to say, Here will I stop ?

28. My carelessness at this time was in a great measure owing to the expectation I had of a reprieve : Of this I seemed almost confident, my wife, who shew'd herself a *true* friend to me in the time of *necessity*, notwithstanding my *baseness* to her, in *deceiving* her as I did, (May the *LORD* be her friend, if she be yet living !) assuring me that I should *not* die. I was respited several times. At last Justice Fielding's brother came to me a few days before the day of execution, and desir'd me to tell him *ingenuously* and *truly*, whether those *three* men I had impeach'd were guilty ? I confidently affirmed they *were* ; tho' I knew it to be false. I pray *GOD* make them amends for the wrong I did them, seeing I cannot.----After this Mr. F----g became my friend, and thro' his and the favour of Sir J. L----r, and one of the K---g's messengers, a pardon was procur'd for me ; tho' before I had my reprieve, the drums were beating, and the guards and cart at the prison-door to have me to execution ; which news being told me, gave me no concern at all : Not *then* because I knew that death to me would be the pleasing passage

to a life of endless happiness, but because of the *stupidity* of my conscience, and my *insensibility* of the miserable state I was in, and the dependence I had upon the interest of my friends. How hard is the heart of a *natural* man, 'till the Almighty God has humbled and broken it by the power of his *convincing* Spirit. And so *doubly* harden'd was my heart become thro' the *deceitfulness* of *sin*, that had not God himself of his mere mercy in *Christ Jesus*, interpos'd, all the *preaching* and *teaching* in the world, the denunciation of all the *terrible threatnings* in the *law* of God, the promulgation of all the *inviting promises* of the *gospel*, all that *angels* or *men* could have done or laid to me, would have been in *vain*. But neither did the goodness of God to me stop here, for with my *life*, I had my *liberty* granted me immediately, by means of two worthy gentlemen, who gave each *40l.* bail for my appearance at the next Sessions.---- Ungrateful wretch I, who made so *bad* a use of so *great* favours.-----At the same time with me, one *Glover* a smugler, received a pardon also.

29. When I had gotten my liberty, I waited on Gen. L---r, to return him thanks for his favour, who gave me a guinea. I then took to work again at gardening, and had a very good place: but it happen'd, after I had been there some time, that being drinking in a publick house with my master's brother, a quarrel broke out in the company between another man and I, and I, as I justly deserved for being concern'd in the *riot*, was sent to the New-Goal, Southwark, by the name of *J. Jones*. Here I, with some other prisoners, concluded to break the prison, and that the keeper's dog might not bark and disturb us in our attempt, we took care to destroy him by poison, and began our work, but were nevertheless discover'd; so that when my

friends came to bail me out, the goaler detain'd me for attempting an escape : from hence I was carried to Guildford-goal, from whence after some time I was releas'd.

30. During the time I was under confinement at Guildford, I contracted an acquaintance with two *thoughtless, resolute* poor creatures, like myself ; for such alone were fit companions for me : I could by no means bear any one that betrayed any degree of *seriousness* or *fear*. With these I agreed that if we were acquitted, we would all take to the *highway* together ; and we did not fail of our word. Many were the robberies we committed in and about London. I was at last wounded in attempting to rob a gentleman near the Halfway-house going to Kensington. One of my accomplices was taken, and afterwards hanged. Upon his impeachment (oh ! what a rope of *sand* is the confederacy of the wicked !) my other companion and I were forced to fly. I bent my course to the West, having first bought me a very long knife, either to defend myself, or rob withal, and got to Salisbury disguis'd in a sailor's habit. There I got acquainted with one who was formerly a carpenter in the French service. With him I set out for Exeter, and on the road ask'd him to rob a gentleman, but he was afraid, and would not consent. When we came to Exeter, he made information against me for advising him to rob, and moreover took his oath, that I was an *outlawed smugler* ; whereupon I was apprehended and committed to prison. On my examination I swore, after my usual manner, that my name was *J. Jackson*, and that I was born at Prescot in Lancashire. This is the only time that I ever got any advantage by changing my name ; but *now* it stood me instead, for by this means I got clear of the charge

charge of *outlawry*, and was then also acquitted of the other indictment, and set at liberty.

31. Being discharged, I went to Taunton in Somersetshire, disguised as a sailor, and got work at gardening, and at leisure times *painted* pictures and sold them; for I had likewise made some proficiency in painting and drawing patterns for needle-work. Here I assisted in making a new garden for gentleman, and by this means got acquainted with several noted gentlemen's gardeners, and by one of them was recommended to Esquire P----'s, of Farfield, near Stokegussey, where I lived about three quarters of a year. My outward demeanour here was such as gained me respect, and none suspected what my former life had been, yet all the while my heart was still going after its lusts. During my stay here, I contracted an intimacy with a virtuous young woman that was my fellow servant; and (let me here ask pardon of God and her, which I do from the ground of my heart) I ensnared her affections, and debauched her. After I had lived in sin with her some time, I began to fear lest she should prove with child, and be brought to disgrace (a miracle of tenderness in such a one as I) I therefore resolved to have no more criminal conversation with her; and that I might be afraid to break my resolution, I went the Sunday following to church and took the Sacrament upon it, which gave me afterwards some uneasiness, when I considered that I had sinned within the same week. What was this, but that as my day of wickedness and life was near at an end, the day of God's Grace began to dawn.

32. How weak are the resolves of feeble, frail, unconstant man, without the *Strength* of God! My *passion* soon grew too strong for my *reason* and *resolution*, and I again relapsed, and it too soon happened according to my fears; the poor, ruin-

ed (be me ruined) unfortunate creature, proved with child. When I found this (let none blame nor reflect upon her for *my* wickedness) I prepared a potion and gave her, in order to cause abortion, and destroy the fruit of her womb. Had I not crimes enough already standing on record against me, but to the rest must I add this act of murder also? For a *murderer* I was *intentionally*, though my horrid expedient did not succeed. And hear me all ye that have or ever shall attempt to hide your shame by this unnatural means, that ye must one day answer it at the bar of a just God, to whom all your deeds are fully known. Ye are adding murder to adultery, whoever destroys, or attempts to destroy, the embryo in the womb. As a murderer in this respect I stood condemned in my own conscience before God, and, as such, I am conscious I must have been banished from his glorious presence for ever, and consigned over to eternal misery, had not the eternal Son of God, who bore my sin in his own body on the tree (*sweet reflection to me, who must shortly die there!*) pleaded his merits on my behalf, obtained of the Father pardon for me.

33. When I found this poor creature still advancing in her pregnancy, I resolved to leave my place. I communicated to her my intention of going away, and, to make her easy, swore to her, not upon the *Bible*, but a *book of painting*, that I would return and marry her. I had lately received half a year's wages, and with that I set out for *Bristol*, and got work there, at Mess. Hillhouse and Stevens's sugar-house, where I wrought some time, and was well beloved, though I so ill deserved it. Here it was I became acquainted with my unhappy companion and fellow-sufferer, *John Jones*. It happening that *Jones* fell into company with one who was a noted boxer, who challeng'd him

him to box him, which challenge *Jones* accepted. He afterwards came and acquainted me with the affair, and desired me to second him. I refused, saying, I did not like fighting upon a stage, it exposed a man so much, and would have him decline it: " but (added I) if you want money, go upon the high-way; and to encourage him I told him, I was very well acquainted with the manner of the high-way, and feared nothing. He urged, that we had no pistols. I told him, I could rob any man with a stick, and bid him not fear, saying, I am a stout man, and so are you; Who can take us? We shall soon fill our pockets, and then we may buy pistols and horses too. Bristol is much better than London for robbing, and, as it is the fair-time, I don't question getting two or three hundred pounds before it is over." But he was still unwilling to go without pistols; so we concluded to buy a brace; and at length, overcome by my persuasions, he consented. *LORD, lay not this sin to my charge; and Oh! forgive the sins of him whom I have drawn on to his ruin!*

34. I cannot help reflecting here upon the just judgment of GOD! And hear ye this, all ye who take delight in *fighting, cudgelling, and exercises* of this sort. This is not manly bravery, but savage brutality. One blow from an afterwards conquered hand, in a justifiable cause, in defence of our King and Country, gains a man more real honour, than five hundred attended with victory in a private, unnecessary quarrel. Consider, fighting in any manner, unless when a man has a lawful call thereto, is a kind of murder, and is expressly forbidden in the law of GOD; and whoever *abets* or any way *encourages* it, tho' it were but by looking on unconcerned, has been *accessary* and *consented* to the murder, as much as St. *Paul* to the death of the martyr *Stephen*, for taking care of the cloaths of

of those that were going to stone him to death. Supposing the laws of the land took no immediate account of it ; yet, whoever will dare to break the laws of God, because they are not cognizable by the laws of the land, how justly does God suffer such a one to fall from one wickedness to another, until at length they meet with *condign* punishment. Such is the case of poor *Jones* ; he consented to an act of murder, in disobedience to the laws of God ; I was suffered to draw him on to an act of theft, for which he is condemned to die. Let me advise every one to beware in time, and leave off this vicious practice of *fighting* (whereby they not only dishonour God themselves, but are the occasion of many other sins in the spectators) lest they repent of it when it is too late.

35. At our first setting out, we met with Alderman Rich's son in Maudlin-lane, near his father's house : I proposed robbing him ; but *Jones* objected, there being a woman near : I said, I feared nobody, and accordingly attacked him, and robb'd him of a Pinchbeck watch, a 36 s. piece, a moi-dore, and some silver. As I was robbing him, he dropt his cane or stick, which I pick'd up and gave him. I likewise asked him where he lived, and on his telling me at Mile-hill, I bid him go home and say nothing, for if he did, I would blow his brains out. We went from thence to Queen's-square the same night, and robbed Mr. Sheirclift of his watch and money ; after which I was going to rob a gentleman in the square at his own door, though *Jones* persuaded me to the contrary ; but before I could lay hold of him the door was opened, and he went in and escaped my furious hands. The next day we went to Durdham-down, and attacked Mr. Wasborough of Pen-park, who struck me on the head with the butt-

end

end of his whip, and wounded me, whereupon I fired at him: The ball went through his great coat, but happily did him no further harm, for which I can never sufficiently thank God. I then went to a pond and washed the blood off my face, and then we rode off for Bristol, and went home to *Jones*'s lodging, where, after I had washed my face again, and gotten a plaster for my head, I proposed to go out again on foot, but *Jones* absolutely refused, saying he was ill. However, I was resolute, and swore I would have some money that night (so was I hurried on by the devil) and accordingly went by myself to College-Green, and robbed a gentleman of a mourning-ring and seven shillings. To intimidate him, and to prevent his crying out, I gave a signal, whistling and calling as if I had had some accomplice at hand to assist me, though there was none; which probably, together with his fears, occasioned the gentleman to say he was robbed by two men. When I had done, I returned to *Jones*'s lodging, and gave him half the money, leaving my pistols with him. I then went to the Bell in Broad-street, to enquire for lodging. Being asked from whence I came, I immediately replied, from Westbury; not in the least imagining I could be suspected from that circumstance. But God is wise, and here he meant to stop me short in my career. I was suspected to be the person who had attack'd Mr. Wasborough on the Down, and more so from a drop of blood that was left on my face, notwithstanding I had washed it twice. By what small means can God bring great matters to light, when he sees proper, when at other times much stronger circumstances escape unobserved. To put an end to all doubt, while I was here, Mr. Wasborough himself came in, who had been searching after me, and charged me with the robbery. Being searched, and powder and ball

ball found upon me, I was committed to Bride-well, where, being searched again, there was found upon me Mr. Sheirclift's watch, the mourning-ring, and the 36 s. piece. Seeing no possibility of getting clear of the charge, I thought I had better declare the whole of the matter, and accordingly I impeached poor *Jones*, who was taken the next morning in bed, with the pistols att his bed-side, and Mr. Rich's watch in his pocket. We were afterwards both examined before the Mayor of Bristol, and by him committed to Newgate. I should here observe the reason why the things could not be found upon me the first time I was searched ; they were concealed in a private pocket, many of which every common highway-man has about his cloaths.

36. After I was confined in Newgate, I reported that *John Hanley*, who was lately executed at Gloucester, had told me, that he had robbed upon the Down himself, and bid me not be afraid ; which I here solemnly declare was a gross falsehood. *Hanley* never spake such words to me ; it was only what the Devil put into my heart, and I thought by such a discovery to have had the greater favour shewn to me. If therefore my reporting this had any influence in the taking away that poor man's life, I can only be sorry, and repent me of my sin before GOD : for however he might deserve to die for other crimes, that will by no means acquit me of setting my hand to shed, for ought I knew, innocent blood.

37. During all this course of sin, to my shame I declare it to GOD and the world, *Whoredom* was the crime I was most addicted to ; this was my darling vice, and for this I sacrificed my all. And, however light a matter some poor, unthinking wretches as I was may think of it, what I esteem most heinous, I scrupled not to have criminal conversation

versation with *married* women, a sin against which there is so particular a curse denounced in the Law of GOD. And so *foul* a lecher was I, that if I could and should recount the many acts of *Adultery* that I have committed, sure it would kill the *modest* ear, and make the most *infamous* of the *brutish, lustful* herd, next to myself, blush at the relation. I was likewise addicted to *Gaming*, which nothing but the too common practice of among persons of the highest rank could free from the imputation of being *scandalous*, if they could see no other harm in it. But how *fashionable* soever this vice may be, I now see, it is unbecoming the character of a christian, whose interest and duty it is to *redeem the time*. And observe this maxim from me, *Whoever turns common Gamester, if he has not a fortune to support his extravagance, will in a little time turn common Thief; and the more acute he is at Gaming, the more corrupted is he in life and manners.*——*Sabbath-breaking* likewise, and *prophaning the house of GOD*, were other sins whereby I grievously provok'd the eyes of his glory. Many times have I gone to the place of GOD's worship, hardly with a desire or design to hear or profit by his Word, but to meet with company agreeable to my mind. (Glory be to GOD who prevented my *last* purpose herein.) Such an affront as this a just GOD, who is jealous of his honour, and searcheth the heart, will never excuse, and which none but a merciful GOD would ever pardon. And yet how many *daring, thoughtless* mortals are there that press into the *courts of the Lord's house* for no other end? that watch not to hear, what GOD by his messenger will say unto them, but how they may hurry out time enough to meet with their companions. These when they should be begging the *life of their souls* are *plotting the death of their souls*

souls and *bodies* too. Therefore let me entreat every such unthinking sinner to take warning by my fate, and immediately break off such an impious practice; otherwise God will certainly pursue them, as he has me, and they must expect nothing but a curse, beggary, ruin and disgrace in this world, and certain perdition, without true repentance, in the world to come

38. From this short narrative the world may in some measure conceive what a continued course of *villainy* and *wickedness* my whole life has been. Innumerable acts of *Drunkenness*, *Rioting*, *Disobedience to Parents*, *Blasphemy*, *Perjury*, *Lying*, *Theft*, *Injustice*, *Revenge*, *Rebellion*, *Murder*, *Treason*, *Fornication*, *Adultery*, *Bigamy*, *Impiety*, *Ingratitude*, *Sabbath-breaking* and *Gaming*, and of every other vice, have crowded the *short* space of my evil *thirty* years. They may see how *indefatigable* I have been, compassing sea and land, running all hazards, and daring every danger to *serve the Devil*, and, without a miracle of grace, to make my own *damnation* sure: in all my dangers how *barden'd* and *unconcern'd*; in all my deliverances how *unthankful* to my great *Preferver*; and in all my villainies and impieties, how *shameless*, *stubborn*, and *remorseless*! And now must not every man that thinks at all be astonish'd that such a *Caitiff* should live upon the earth, and every good man adore the wonderful goodness of God, who hath spared such a *monster* of iniquity, to make him a *happy* example of his *amazing* love and *free* mercy to *undeserving* sinners! Of his great goodness towards me in bringing me to a sense of my self, and of his love to me in *Christ Jesus*, I shall now give some account, to the glory of his grace. I am too sensible (for I see instances thereof daily) how ready the giddy, thoughtless part of mankind are to *ridicule* things of this nature; but whether they

they will hear, or whether they will forbear, I will, in simplicity, and the fear of God, declare what He hath done for my soul: And I pray God it may be blest to the *converting* or *strengthning* of every one that shall hear thereof!

39. When I was committed to prison, I was very *heavily* iron'd and *closely* confined in the Condemn'd room, it being apprehended, that I being a stout, sturdy, resolute person, might find means to make my escape. Surely the all-wise Providence of God over-ruled in all this affair: For had I robb'd Mr. *Wasborough*, I must have taken my tryal at Gloucester, where I had, in all probability, been destitute of such Spiritual Helps, as I have met with at Bristol: This, and my being so closely confined here, is such an instance of God's *peculiar care* over, and *gracious intentions* towards me, as I shall have reason to praise him for to all eternity. Hereby I had the opportunity of reflecting on my past misconduct, and the benefit of the conversation of some religious friends, uninterrupted by the rest of the prisoners; who, God be merciful to them, are, as I myself have been, unconcern'd at the situation they are in, and heedlessly posting on to *destruction*, which stares them even in the face. Indeed it was many weeks after my imprisonment that I came to any deep and serious reflection: for though (upon considering that when the Judge came to town, there would probably be some with him that would remember me when I was *cast* at the Old-Baily, and that I was past all hope, a *dead man*) I had some *sudden fears* of *death* started up in my mind, attended with some slender *remorse* of conscience, yet they were not lasting, but as *the early dew which passes away*; partly through the natural hardness of my heart, which had not yet been soften'd and made capable of receiving those impressions, and partly thro'

my quenching those motions of God's Spirit by my continuing in sin, and entertaining some hopes of a reprieve,— to obtain which I wrote letters to the worthy gentleman with whom I lived at Farfield, and a lady belonging to his family, requesting their interest for my life, as (I falsely and wickedly assured them) it was the first fact of this kind I had ever been guilty of. Nevertheless, *Jesus Christ* the good Shepherd, who came *to seek and save the lost sheep*, still pursued me, tho' I ran from him, and unexpectedly I was often alarmed with this thought, *Lord! what will become of my soul?* *I am a dying man, and have made no preparation for another world.* Such Alarms would startle me and stir me up to Prayer, but when I began to pray, the Devil would persuade me that I was such a sinner, that it was impossible there could be mercy for me, and it was therefore in vain for me to pray ; and believing those suggestions I would sometimes put off all thoughts of returning to God.

40. Thus went I on awhile, sometimes willing to return to God, if I thought there were hopes or possibility of being accepted ; sometimes concluding there was not, determined to make the most I could of the little time I had, seeing I must be for ever miserable hereafter. But on *Easter-Tuesday, March 31*, as soon as I arose out of bed, I was so terrified in my conscience, that I could get no rest. I knew not what to do. I longed for some good Christian to advise me, but knew not whom to send to. The agonies of my mind increasing more and more, I thought to ease myself by reading a little : accordingly I took up the Common-prayer-book, in which I read, and sometimes prayed on my knees, (the prisoners that lay in the room with me being all gone out). While I was in this distress of soul, and as I was reading, according to my wish, (oh ! the wisdom of the providence

providence of GOD !) a religious woman came to the window, saying, *My friend, I am glad to see you so well employed ; I am not come to look at you, but to speak to you for the good of your soul.* She had not spoken many words more, before I was cut to the very heart, and had I not given way to my distress by a flood of tears, my heart must have burst. As soon as I was able to answer her, I could not forbear crying out, “ I am the vilest sinner upon earth ; I “ have been guilty of all manner of wickedness.” She then told me, if I felt the burden of sin, that I was the very person, for whom *Christ* died ; at which good news I was a little refresh’d, and for that time she left me. After this she came to me every day, with others that had like care for my soul, and gave me such spiritual advice as they saw I stood in need of ; and sang hymns suitable to my condition, and join’d in fervent prayer for me, and directed me to proper portions of Scripture. All this time the conviction of my lost state sank deeper and deeper into my soul, and I was moved in my heart to make an open confession of such crimes as would have touched my life, if the fact I was committed for had not. On Friday, April 3 two Christian friends coming into my room, at a seasonable time (for I was in the utmost distress) I desired them to pray with me : As we were singing a hymn, I began to tremble under a deep sense of the wrath of an offended GOD ; I was all over in a cold sweat, and every nerve in my body seemed to be unstrung, and I interrupted them, crying out, “ Oh ! what a sinner am I !—I have no need “ of any other tryal ; I am guilty ; I have enough “ within me to condemn me, and when I come “ before the judge, I will plead *guilty*, for I dare “ not tell a *lie*.” Oh what remorse, what terrors of conscience did I undergo for five days together ? Such as no tongue can utter, nor pen express. Yet amidst all I was at times supported by a small gleam

of distant hope. Glory be to GOD ! who laid no more upon me than I was able to bear.

41. How vigilant is the devil over the souls of men to destroy them ? While I was rushing on in the broad way to eternal perdition, I never concerned myself about the Scriptures whether they were true or false ; but as soon as I began to read and search them, immediately the enemy of all good began to assault me with his fiery darts. As I was reading in the *Common-Prayer Book*, he suggested to me, *How do you know what you read is true ?* I thought, *surely it was true, for they were good men that made the Book, and it was taken out of the Scriptures.* He retorted upon me, *How do you know the Scriptures are true ?* GOD here gave me to know the voice of the tempter, and I replied, *Get thee behind me, Satan ; for it is GOD's word, and I will believe it.* But neither yet did he leave me ; for afterwards he took another method, persuading me it was time enough for me to repent after sentence, or two or three days before my execution ; but I repelled him, saying, *Be gone, Satan, for I have been thy servant too long, I will serve thee no longer.*

42. On Saturday night, the 4th of April, my conscience was so alarmed as I lay in bed that my sleep departed from me, and I was seized with inexpressible horror. I felt a perfect hell in my soul. I was all over in a sweat with terror. I trembled to that degree that I shook the bed under me : I roared for the very disquietness of my heart. At last, being no longer able to contain myself, I broke out, *I am afraid, I am lost, and damn'd for ever.* I sat up, and waked all the prisoners in the room, and desired them to join in prayer for me, which they did (may GOD reward them, and shew mercy upon them all !) In this condition I continued all the rest of the night. On Sunday morning, as soon as it was day, I rose and went to prayer, but saw no manner of hope. I continued restless, miserable, and despairing, till about noon, when, concluding myself past all hopes of mercy, I thought, seeing I must perish, I will resign myself wholly up to the will of GOD. But nevertheless, as I was to die, I thought I would learn a form of prayer, wherein to commend my soul into the hands of GOD at the place of execution ; and accordingly I began to read the dying petitions of Thomas Savage, which were these ; *LORD JESUS receive my spirit. LORD, one smile. Good LORD, one word of comfort for CHRIST's sake.* Though death

death make a separation between my soul and body, let nothing separate between Thee and my soul to all eternity. As I read and ponder'd on these words, I found fresh hopes springing up in me, and seemed to feel an assurance in my heart, that GOD had still a love for me, and would receive my soul. I believed, and in a moment all my distress was taken away. The load of guilt I felt before was removed, and I was filled with inexpressible joy. I no longer fear'd death, I loved GOD, and longed to be with him. Had the cart came that moment to take me to execution, I should have gone with infinite pleasure. In the transport of my mind I cried out, GOD hath forgiven me all my sins, He hath given me his holy Spirit in my heart, and I am quite easy. What a change is here wrought in five days ! I that could so lately murder a man for his money, could now give away all that I had. I then, with a willing heart and hand, distributed the little money I had among my fellow-prisoners ; which I mention not boastingly, but to magnify the Grace of GOD, which inclined my heart not only to do this, but ten thousand times more for his sake, had it been in my power.

43. This excels of joy continued with me for some time ; at length I found a sweet calm peace sink down into my soul : My passions were allay'd, my heart was chang'd, and I abhorred my former course of life. For this amazing Grace, *Not unto me, O LORD, not unto me, but unto thy name be the praise ;----for not by works of righteousness which I had done [O GOD thou knowest] but according to thy mercy thou hast saved me, by the washing of regeneration and the renewing of the HOLY GHOST.*

“ Of him that did salvation bring,
 “ I could for ever think and sing :
 “ Arise, ye guilty, he'll forgive ;
 “ Arise, ye needy, he'll relieve.
 “ Ask but his Grace, and, lo ! 'tis giv'n ;
 “ Ask, and he turns your Hell to heav'n.
 “ Tho' sin and sorrow pierc'd my soul,
 “ Thy balm, O JESU ! made it whole.

From this instance of free unmerited Grace, let no sinner presume on the long-suffering of GOD, nor trust to a late repentance, as I did ; neither let any that is willing to return unto GOD despair, since I, the vilest of the fallen race, have found acceptance with him.

44. After, by the grace of GOD, this blessed change was wrought in me, upon hearing one of the Prisoners swear, his word seemed like thunder in my ear, and I was thrown into such an agony, for grief to hear the name of GOD blasphemed, that I fell down on the floor, and all my flesh seem'd to be parting from my bones ; so bitter was sin to me now, in which I lately took so great delight. And whenever I see any one wanton behaviour among the men and women prisoners, I am filled with such abhorrence thereat, as I am not able to express. And perhaps in this thing, (which is no wonder) I run to an extreme ; but so it is, I can hardly bear the sight of a woman, unless I know them to be such as fear GOD. I would now have given any thing in the world to recall the letters I sent, in order to petition for a reprieve, not only because I would not now live, but as being heartily sorry I should thus endeavour to impose upon the goodness of such worthy persons. I here heartily ask them pardon for so doing. This experience has been of use to me ; for when *Satan* has buffeted me, and tempted me to doubt of GOD's mercy, I could repell him thus, I know GOD loves me, for he has given me to hate sin. Yet that I might not presume, the evening before my trial came on, I was shewn my own weakness, and how unable I was of myself to maintain that Grace I had received ; and that *Jesus* who is the *Author*, is likewise the *Continuer*, as well as *Finisher of Faith*. As I was talking with one of some temporal concerns, I found a mist come over my soul, and the presence of GOD was somewhat hid from me. I desired my friend to leave me immediately, for I was in a great agony. Being left alone, I fell on my knees before GOD, and with strong crying and tears made supplication to him, 'till he restored to me again the light of his countenance, which he did in about half an hour.

45. On Friday, April 10, the trumpet gave its solemn, pleasing sound, to call me, and the rest of my fellow-prisoners, to the bar of justice, to be tried according to the laws of our country. It was to me as a welcome voice from heaven, and it filled my heart with joy to think I should shortly be there. When I was put to the bar, knowing myself worthy of more than one death, I determined, as I had done before, to give the court no trouble, but to plead guilty, and address'd the judge nearly in this manner :

My Lord, I am called by the name of Jackson ; but I desire to be indicted by the name of Nicolas Mooney, for the other is a fictitious name. And, my Lord, I beg I may have the liberty of speaking a few words before I am arraigned, to let your Lordship know, That I am the man who have drawn Jones into these unhappy circumstances, and hope your Lordship will therefore shew him favour. My Lord, I have been arraigned for my life before at the Old-Bailey, and was convicted, and the cart came to the door to take me to execution ; but I was reprieved. I then depended altogether upon the favour of friends ; but now I rely only upon GOD : Had I died then, I had gone to hell and been damn'd to all eternity ; but now I am snatched as a brand from the burning, and my sentence will be pleasing. His Lordship then asked me, If I did not expect mercy, by pleading guilty. I replied, No, my Lord, I expect no mercy from man on this side the grave. The Lord is on my side, I do not fear what man can do unto me. I desire to die, for I have not only committed many robberies, but have been a rebel, and fought against my King and Country. His Majesty's clemency to me before I have abused. 'Till within these few days, I neither knew what it was to fear or love GOD, but now I know both ; and I know that GOD is reconciled to me, and has forgiven me all my sins, and I am content to die.

46. The next day I was called to the bar again, to receive sentence of death, which I did with the utmost calmness and composure of mind. I here again address'd his Lordship much to this purpose :

My Lord, Permit me again to entreat for John Jones, whom I have inveigled and drawn into this trouble (as I have done several others before) that your Lordship would be pleased to spare his life.---As for my own part, I have committed many robberies, and been a rebel against my King, and have wronged my Country by coining money, for which I can never make the publick restitution, and therefore I am content to die, as I deserve.---And I pray GOD to bless every one to whom I have done any wrong. And if there be any gentlemen of Bristol here whom I have injured, I heartily ask them forgiveness, and especially Mr. Wasborough, [he then stood by me] whom I attempted to murder, but GOD saved him, for which I can never praise him enough.---My Lord, I only desire three Sundays, and then I am willing to launch into eternity. And I hope when I come to the place of execution, that GOD will open my mouth to warn all to flee

their wicked course of life.—I pray GOD to bless your Lordship and the honourable court, and the Lord Jesus receive my soul.

I then deliver'd a written petition to his Lordship, requesting some favours, which were not granted, for sufficient reasons since given me: No doubt it is best so; for GOD is wise, and orders all things well.

47. After condemnation I wrote letters, one to the poor creature who is now with child by me, and another to a gentleman who had been formerly my friend, part of which, or special reasons, I think proper here to subjoin.

“ DEAR NELLY, Bristol, April 14, 1752.

RIGHTEOUS is the LORD, and just are his Judgments: His Hand hath at last overtaken me; his Hand of Justice to cut short my Life, and his Hand of Mercy to save my Soul. You for one can witness to the Justice of my Sentence. Were it in my Power, I would gladly make you and every one else Amends, whom I have ever injured in their Goods, Persons, or Credit; but seeing it is not, I hereby ask you Forgiveness for the Wrong I have done you; and I trust that GOD, to whom I owe this Duty first, and you and every one else, will accept of my willing Mind to make full Restitution.

I AM too apprehensive what you have to undergo on my Account, not to be concerned for you: Oh! that I had sufficiently considered this, before I had brought you into this Trouble! the Shame naturally attending your Circumstances, the Trouble consequent thereon, the Slight of Friends, the Indignity and Reproaches of an ill-natur'd World, are all grievous to be borne; but yet I hope that GOD, who comforts and supports me under my Trials, in a Manner I am not able to express, will do the same for you. Put your Trust in Him, and you shall never be confounded.

ON Wednesday fortnight, or as some tell me, on Friday se'nnight, I am to die and be delivered out of the Miseries of this sinful World. Glory be to GOD, thro' Jesus Christ, He has given Repentance and Remission of Sins, to me the most undeserving and the worst of Sinners. He has taken away Sin, the Sting of Death, and I am prepared to meet my Saviour and my Judge. Let my Example encourage every Sinner to break off his Sins and come unto GOD thro' Jesus Christ, pleading nothing but his Merits, and their

their own Guilt, and He will freely forgive them: But let none presume on the Long Suffering of GOD, for he will surely *visit their Iniquity with a Rod, and their Sin with Scourges.*

As a *dying* Man I give you this Advice: Give yourself up wholly to GOD, pray to him continually, and never rest 'till you have secured an Interest in the Blood of *Jesus Christ*. Live in his *Fear*, and you, as I trust I shall, shall die in his *Favour*. And as to the dear, innocent *Babe*, if it lives, let me entreat you to be careful of its *Education*. Let it in its earliest Days be instructed in the *sound* Principles of *true* Religion and Virtue, and taught to avoid whatever is displeasing to Almighty GOD. Let it be warned against *every* evil *Temper, Word* and *Work*, and encouraged in every Thing that is agreeable to the Will of the most High; and labour to impress a *deep* Sense of his awful Majesty upon its Mind, as soon as it is capable of Reflexion. If you do this, I doubt not but GOD, who has the Hearts of all Men in his Hand, will *reward* you and *raise* you up Friends to assist you in *every* Need.

I now commend you to GOD's Grace and Almighty Protection, and request your earnest Prayers for

Your dying Friend and Wellwisher,
NICOLAS MOONE Y."

" SIR,
BEFORE I die, I take this Opportunity of acknowledging your *Kindness* to me in Time past. Oh! that I had *deserved* it, for then I had not brought myself into *these* unhappy Circumstances: But GOD is *wise* and seeing I would not hear his Voice and leave my *wicked* Life; He gave me up to my *own* *Heart's Lust* and permitted me to *fill up the Measure of mine Iniquity*, that in me at last might be shewn the *Severity* of his *Justice* and *Riches* of his *Mercy*. You took me, the most abandon'd Wretch, for an honest Man; and as such you *kindly* and *generously* recommended me where I *might* have done well. It is my *own* Fault I did not. On *Friday* Se'nnight I am to meet the Fate my Crimes have too *justly* deserved. I deserve not only *Death* but *Hell*: To the former Man hath doom'd me; from the latter *Christ* will save me. Of this I have such a firm Hope in myself, being assured that GOD is reconciled to me, that my *Prison* is a *Palace*, my *Chains* are as *Ornaments*, and I am quite *happy*. I hope every one will pray for

me that my *Faith* fail not. I am *longing* for Death, and in *firm Expectation* of a *glorious Resurrection* to eternal Life, Bristol, April 14, *Your much obliged and dying Servant,*
1752. **NICOLAS MOONEY.**"

" Please to communicate these Lines to Mr: B—ht,
with my due Respects.

About eight days before I was to be executed, one came to me, and told me, a clergyman of the Romish church would willingly attend upon me, if I chose it. I told him, I did not chuse it ; for having renounced the errors and superstitions of that church, and experienced the truth as it is in *Jesus*, I will die a member of the church of England.

48. A day or two after, I ordered my coffin and shroud to be made, that I might have them in my room some time before I died, that I might this way try my faith, and see how firmly I could bear the sight of this shrine of death. While the coffin-maker was measuring me, I found sweet composure of soul, and a comfortable sense of God's presence ; and it was with no little pleasure that I saw this repository of my mouldring relicks brought into the room. This was provided for me at the expence of a friend ; and here it is my desire my earthly remains should rest, that the affliction of my relations and friends on my account might not be aggravated by the disposal of them any other way ; tho' rather than that an oath should be sworn, a blow struck, or any disturbance made on my account whereby God should be offended, after I am dead, I am content to be anatomized, hung in chains, or that my inanimate clay should be any other ways disposed of, as I told the Sheriff. Oh ! who would not leave off the works of darkness, and believe in the *Lord Jesus*, the friend of sinners, who is thus able to support his members, and to raise their happy souls above the fear of death, and to make even that king of terrors (who, to a man unregenerate and unprepared, that is not quite hardened, comes attended with all his ghastly train of horrors) appear a welcome friend, that lends his kind hand to lift poor mortals out of this sea of misery, and place them upon the firm land of everlasting rest. On the Sunday before the day appointed for my execution, a friend proposed our going there in a coach, but I told my fellow-sufferer, As our crimes have been publick, let us be publick examples : Let us be seen of all, that all may take warning. God will support us. We do not know what good we may do by being exposed in a cart. I had likewise a friendly visit from

from Mr. Wasborough, and Mr. Sheirclift, which gave me no small Satisfaction. And that day I received the blessed sacrament. My soul fed on angels food, and I eat the bread of heaven. I have been since tried many ways, by some out of love, by others out of strife and contention; but I found that promise of my Saviour true, *The Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost—He shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.* And so it was; for I had Scripture brought to my mind, and opened to me, to strengthen me against those that opposed, which I had read, but perhaps not so much as thought of for many years. I could likewise distinguish my shepherd's voice in his servants from the voice of strangers; such was that of the Romish priest (as I am told he was) who came to me on Monday, just as I was going to receive the sacrament, and strove to impose his absurd doctrine of *transubstantiation* upon me: To whom I replied, The bread and wine are signs of my **LORD**'s body and blood, and channels to convey an inward and spiritual Grace, but as for a real change of the elements I believe it not. I likewise told him, I would not have him give himself any further trouble about me. I went out, and was again abundantly refreshed at the sacred ordinance. Several times have I received the sacrament before, but never 'till I took it here did I know what it was spiritually to eat the flesh of the Son of man and drink his blood. On Tuesday night W. Cudmore, who was condemn'd to die with Jones and me, found means to get off his irons, and had begun to break prison, but was discovered.—I admire the providence of **God**, that I was not in the same room. Welcome halter, welcome death to me! had all the prison-doors been set open, here would I have staid to meet the fate my crimes have deserved. Wednesday I kept a fast to the **LORD**, took the sacrament, and attended at chapel. It was a day of refreshment from the presence of the **LORD**. Whoever advises me to the contrary, how can I but be confident of this which I feel in my soul? Yea, tho' I am therefore branded with enthusiasm and blasphemy, I will, by the Grace of **God**, hold fast the beginning of my confidence stedfast unto the end, for it hath great recompence of reward; yea, I have already the earnest of my heavenly inheritance. And what should I do but praise **God** while I have breath, and magnify him in this manner? seeing no ransom'd son of Adam has greater reason, and none ought more to invite his fellow-sinners to come unto **God** by *Jesus Christ*.

49. It has been objected against me, " That 'tis impossible so vile a sinner as I have been should be so much chang'd in so short a time." Why, did not GOD make a world in six days, and is he not able to change a heart (for the work is his alone) in five days ? Or, do they who make this objection know and consider the Scriptures and the power of GOD ? (who can limit it) is his hand shorten'd that he cannot save ? I will tell them of a Thief before me, to whom GOD gave Repentance and Pardon, and took him to Paradise in less than five hours. Others say, my requesting three Sundays before I died has but a dark look. I did not ask this because I wanted to live three weeks or three days longer, barely for the sake of living, or for fear of dying, and I longed to be with *Christ*, which is far better. Others exclaim against me vehemently for not clearing *John Jones* at the bar. My answer to such is, Once (to gain my own ends) I did not scruple to take a false oath, or what amounted to it, tho' it were to hang a man ; but now I scruple to tell a known lie, tho' it would save a man from being hang'd, yea, tho' I were sure to gain my own life and the whole world thereby. That I have drawn that unfortunate man into this plight, I am heartily sorry. I ask pardon of GOD and him. I did all I could, with a safe conscience, to procure him favour in court, as all who were present can testify, and he himself has declared. I will yet do for him all I can, which is to pray for him, as for myself: and I hope, tho' he be cut off from the land of the living here, that the *Lord Jesus Christ* will receive his soul to mansions of eternal life and happiness. Other uncharitable things have been said of me and to me, but they move me not, With me it is a very small thing to be judg'd of man, or of man's judgment. My Master, whom I now serve, was revil'd and reproach'd before me. I am content to suffer with him and for him, not only this, but a thousand times more, bonds, imprisonment, death; for I have deserved more, even Hell itself.

50. I shall now conclude my whole account with observing That at present I enjoy great peace, amidst all the noise of a prison, the disturbance of impertinent company and my earthly troubles. When the reverend and worthy ministers that attend me and my fellow prisoners, or my Christian friends that have for some time past assisted me with their spiritual advice, are praying with me, or singing hymns of prayer or praise to almighty GOD, I have such a sweet

sweet feeling sense of the presence of GOD, with me, that I am in a manner ravish'd therewith. May GOD reward them all a thousand fold, for their kind concern for and watchful care over my soul, and every one else who hath been any ways a Minister unto me for good: as such I account the persons who *took me*: they were messengers sent from GOD to stop me in the way of perdition, and to place me here, where I might find the way to Heaven: I can but smile at my fetters, they are the chains my sins have more than deserved, and I am willing to bear them; if I could slip them from my legs, I would not: when I think of dying, my spirit is ready to start from my body, to anticipate the glory I expect hereafter: I could suffer my flesh to be boiled in oil, for the *Lord Jesus Christ's* sake: and I believe I shall put the Halter about my Neck with more pleasure than I put on a clean neckcloth; so much hath the blessed Saviour sweeten'd and alleviated all my afflictions. And I trust, tho' *Satan* may tempt, and men *oppose* and *revile*, that GOD will never leave me nor forsake me, but having begun the good work in my soul, will carry it on to perfection, and perform it unto the *end*; and that from the fatal tree I shall mount up to the regions of eternal bliss, to enjoy the glorious presence of my GOD and Saviour to all eternity, and with all the company of holy Angels and glorified Spirits, to sing Hallelujahs to GOD and the Lamb, that sitteth upon the Throne for ever! *Amen.*

Newgate April 23,

1752 *NICHOLAS MOONEY.*

Some farther Particulars relating to NICOLAS MOONEY.

THE night before his execution six persons sat up in the room, and spent the time till midnight in reading, singing, and solemn prayer. At one the prisoners went to bed, and desir'd the 8th chap. of the Romans to be read to them, which being done, they went to sleep. At three Mooney arose, and wash'd himself saying, 'My wedding day is come at last!' Convers'd cheerfully with his friends 'till four, and then call'd up Jones and Cudmore, and all together spent about an hour in devotion. After which, Jones falling into a great agony as he stood at the window, retir'd to the bed, and seemed under so great terrors, that he had fainted had not timely application been made; at which, Mooney clapped his hands, and rejoicing, cried out, 'I bless GOD for this! More of my Sort of work; mine began in this Manner.' when Jones came to himself,

Mooney

Mooney took him by the hand, saying, ' Come, my dear brother Jones, fear not; we shall both take our flight above the Clouds soon.

About 7 o'Clock Company began to flock in, and he with the utmost chearfullness testified to all the consolation he felt from GOD. He then drest himself in mourning, saying, " I hope this is no sin: I do it not out of vanity but neatness. No, no more of the Devil's works for me." ----He continu'd reading, praying, and speaking to the people 'till he was call'd to sacrament at nine, which being ended, the executioner enter'd and put the rope round his neck, at which he said, " Welcome, halter! my case is like that of the thief on the cross." ---Two friends were allow'd to go with the prisoners in the cart, which they acknowledged as a special favour. To one of them he said, " I am almost unwilling to part with you; I could wish you were to go to Heaven with me, *but not this way.*" ---When he saw the gallows he smil'd, saying, " Welcome, gallows, I have deserv'd thee many years." ---At the place of execution they all joined the Minister in singing and prayer; which done, he earnestly exhorted all sinners to take warning by him. ---He then gave this printed Narrative of his life to the Sheriff, and said, " This was revised by me last night, and it contains nothing but the truth, and it is my desire it should be dispersed abroad as much as possible, to shew my wickedness and GOD's goodness, who has forgiven me all my Sins; " with many more strong expressions of his stedfast faith, to that purpose. He then clear'd up the character of one who had been falsly aspersed; and denied his ever having any intention to plunder 'Squire P----'s house, saying, " I have been guilty of no robberies but in the streets or highway," He then proceeded, " I know CHRIST died for me, and the moment the breath is out of my body, my soul will be in Heaven." As the executioner was preparing to tie up Jones he cried out, " Tie me up first; for I am the greatest offender; " and desired that no one would pull his legs, for that he was willing to suffer *all the pain of Death.* ---The rope being fix'd, he cry'd out " My soul is so full of the love of GOD, that it is ready to start out of my body; and in a few moments I shall be at my Father's House." The cart, being then drawn away, he launch'd into a happy Eternity.



